

# WestLife

## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2025

West Auckland Parish Council is celebrating its 21<sup>st</sup> year and has recently completed an uncontested election and it's full committee of 12 members continue to work voluntarily to improve the village wherever possible. The Parish Council have always worked closely with the police, Durham County Council and other organisations for the benefit of the area. There has recently been an increase in anti-social behaviour (ASB) from a couple of small groups of youths; they have caused damage and been abusive to residents in various areas throughout the village. Unfortunately, the majority of good kids in the village are sadly becoming tarred with the same brush.

The Parish Council continue to work with police and encourage residents to report unacceptable behaviour to keep the area somewhere pleasant and friendly to live. A recently arranged Police & Community Together (PACT) meeting was well attended and informative. The next PACT meeting is arranged for Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 6.00 pm at Monteith Close Community Parish Room; all residents are welcome to attend and any information reported to the police or Parish Council is treat as strictly confidential.

### As few words from local policeman, Scott....



*As your local neighbourhood officer my role is very varied at tackling and managing a whole array of issues in West Auckland, one of these is Anti-Social Behaviour in the year I have been the neighbourhood officer for West Auckland I have seen a variety of levels of ASB. You may have noticed recently new signs appearing on lampposts in the village these are called Section 59 notices this notifies that the police can and will seize vehicles used in an ASB setting even if they are insured and taxed etc. As the neighbourhood team grows with the addition of new Constables and PCSO's I am committed to further patrols and problem-solving work in the community also involving other agencies such as the Durham County Council Neighbourhood wardens whose role is also to deal with ASB.*

*West Auckland is a lovely village with a good community spirit and as your local officer all I ask is that you work with me to tackle the issues in the community and contact me with our issues, concerns, and information to assist me in carrying out my role.*

*Scott Dobinson, Police Officer*

The police can be contacted using the following email addresses; please note there is Scott and Marcus, Police & Community Support Officer allocated to this area and they will respond to emails when on duty. Other police officers will be available via 101 when Scott and Marcus are off duty.

[Scott.dobinson@durham.police.uk](mailto:Scott.dobinson@durham.police.uk)  
[Marcus.robinson@durham.police.uk](mailto:Marcus.robinson@durham.police.uk)

To report anything to the police please, use their website: <https://www.durham.police.uk/>, ring 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Social Media:  [@DurhamPolice](https://www.facebook.com/DurhamPolice)

**DON'T LET A MINORITY OF YOBBS SPOIL A THIS GREAT VILLAGE THAT SO MANY VOLUNTEERS  
WORK HARD TO IMPROVE AND CARE FOR!!!**

## **Just a brief update on what else is happening around the village:**

- Electric car chargers for public use were initiated by George and Rob and will be installed at the Well carpark once planning permission is obtained.
- Enquiries are ongoing to request additional street lighting at the New Street play area to improve security and accessibility during dark nights.
- The Memorial Hall continues to be developed with the Committee working in partnership with the Parish Council and external funding providers. The facility is regularly used for community activities as well as a base for the NHS Wellbeing team and Probation Service.
- Following vandalism, two picnic tables have been removed and kindly repaired and upgraded by local, Joe Robinson and Cllr Billy Robinson.
- Once again, the Village in Bloom volunteers have created a beautiful display of flowers throughout the village. They also help to keep the village in a clean state thanks to their regular litter picks.
- Thanks to Cllr Neil Simpson who regularly volunteers to support the Village in Bloom team and maintains various grass verges around the village.

### **WEST AUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS**

George Smith (Chairman)	07976 388381
Ed Farrer (Vice Chairman)	07810 350243
Billy Robinson	01388 833663
Chris Smith	07711 423746
Helen Stott	07946 644222
Jean Curl	07833 966955
Jean Pattison	07921 824821
Karen Bolton	07789 813703
Kelly Guest	07368 102452
Martin Roberts	07717 533577
Neil Simpson	07725 979714
Tina Horsman	07745 870132

Parish Clerk Sharon Proud      07840 020288  
email: [sharon.home@btinternet.com](mailto:sharon.home@btinternet.com)

Parish Council Meetings are held at Monteith Close Community Parish Room, DL14 9UB at 7.00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month (except August). Visit our website:

<http://www.westaucklandparishcouncil.org.uk/>

**WestLife** is produced by West Auckland Parish Council, printed by Cre8ive Graphics and delivered by the Scouts.

### **Chairman's Note**

Please support the police in managing the parish by being vigilant and ensuring that you report any untoward incident to either the police or via any Parish Councillor.

All reports made will be kept strictly confidential.

The Parish Council have achieved much over their 21 years of existence and strive to improve your village in any way they can. Residents help to discourage ASB is much appreciated.

*George*

Cllr George Smith